



Serra Little League



Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Los Altos, Calif. • Little League # 4-05-44-18 • Tax ID 77-0022110
Co-sponsored by the City of Sunnyvale, Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 903, Cupertino, CA 95014 Information: (408) 345-9800

Mr. Robert Walker
Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Sunnyvale
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

November 16, 2004

Dear Robert,

Serra Little League has had the distinct pleasure of having as a volunteer within the league for over thirty-five years, Mr. Robert "Bob" Bernhardt. Serra Little League has been in existence since 1964. Bob has been an integral part of our league, really, since its beginning. Now, unfortunately, Bob has been stricken with cancer and is unable to dedicate his time and talents to the league as he would like to.

It is our desire as the Board of Directors of Serra Little League to honor him for his dedicated service for so many years. He has been an inspiration to many of our players, managers, coaches and especially umpires. We would like to name Serra Park's Field One after him. If ever there was one deserving of such an honor, it's Bob Bernhardt. I hope that we can have your support as we strive to so enshrine his good name in the annals of Sunnyvale Community Service.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Fitzpatrick
President, Serra Little League

Tim Caturegli
Vice-President

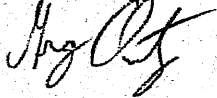
Ken Orvick
Treasurer

Martin Bradford
Secretary

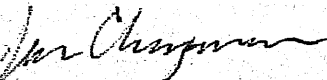
Scot Strotman
Majors Player Agent

Jeff Maenaga
T-Ball Player Agent

Greg Ortiz
Facilities Director



Jim Chapman
Instruction Director



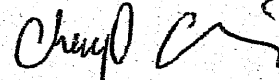
Jenni Winter
Snack Shack Director



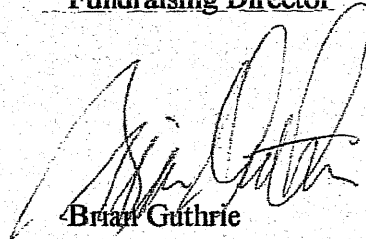
Paul Lawson
Equipment Director



Cheryl Ching
Fundraising Director



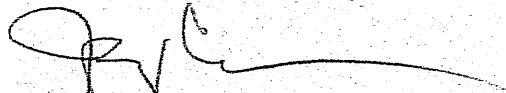
Brian Guthrie
Umpire Director



Dave Willems

Dave Willems
Safety Director

Jay Cena
Trophy Director



Cc: Felix Balga, DA California District 44

Don Reeves
1611 Duvall Drive
San Jose, CA 95130

November 22, 2004

Mr. Robert Walker
Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Sunnyvale
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

Dear Sir,

It is my extreme pleasure to be writing to you on behalf of my long relationship with Bob Bernhardt.

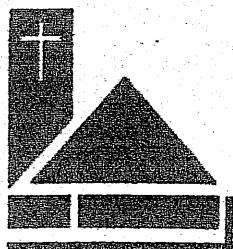
I served with Bob on the District 44 Board of Directors for twenty years. He was in charge of publicity, tournament set-up (scheduling 150 games to be played in a three/four week period), and also worked for me on the District 44 (Select) umpire team. I was the Umpire Consultant for twenty years. Whenever an umpire couldn't make his game, I could call Bob, and he would fill in. He was always at meetings and helped out in field mechanics clinics. In addition to this, Bob also kept up the umpiring in his home league, Serra.

Bob is the type of volunteer that would be good for any volunteer organization. If I understand correctly, the City of Sunnyvale will not name a field for someone until after they have been deceased for two years. This is hard for me to understand, because a person, like Bob, doesn't set an agenda to help the kids of your city for 2-3 years. This man has given over 20 years of loyal service to the kids of Sunnyvale.

Please let Bob be honored by letting his name be used to name a field at Serra Little League. By making this exception, he will be able to enjoy going to or working games at "Bob Bernhardt Field" while still living.

Sincerely,


Don Reeves



A church that reaches out.

Los Altos United Methodist Church
655 Magdalena Avenue
Los Altos, California 94024
Telephone 650-948-1083 Fax 650-949-5372 www.laumc.org
Mark S. Bollwinkel
Senior Pastor

October 29, 2004

Mr. Robert Walker
Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Sunnyvale
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

Dear Mr. Walker:

I write to request an exemption to the "60 month" rule regarding the City of Sunnyvale's public recognition of a citizen's contribution to our community. Specifically, I join the effort for the consideration of naming the baseball field at Serra Park in honor of Mr. Bob Bernhardt.

It has been my privilege to know Bob Bernhardt as pastor and friend for the last six years. During that time Bob has served as one of the five Lay Leaders in our congregation of 5,000. That role is an honor bestowed on exemplary church members in faith and service. Bob and his bride Ellie have been members at LAUMC for more than 20 years. Their contributions to our church have been outstanding and numerous.

As an avid baseball fan myself, Bob and I have shared many a conversation about his investment in time and love towards the Serra Little League as officer and umpire. That Serra won the District 44 Championship last year for the first time in forty years is in direct relationship to the community leadership of citizens such as Bob Bernhardt.

Bob is coming to the end of his battle with cancer. This gentle and kind man has spent his volunteer and professional life making our community a better place. It would be more than fitting to tell him that we appreciate it before we lose the chance.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Bollwinkel

Cc: J. Scott Erwin
Ron Swegles
Melinda Hamilton

1 December 2004

Hon. Dean Chu, Mayor and Hon. City Council
City of Sunnyvale
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Mayor Chu and Council:

Recently, in your installation address, Mayor Chu, you addressed public service as being a high calling, and you discussed the need to recognize those who give of their time for the betterment of the community.

In that same spirit, I present to you a 44 year resident of Sunnyvale who has served with distinction in church, civic and community service. Robert, 'Bob,' Bernhardt of 961 Gerber Court, has been an Elder in the Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church; later a Lay Leader and active volunteer in the Los Altos United Methodist Church; President of the Homestead Parent-Faculty Club and has led other local societal organizations. He is a uniquely worthy citizen.

In his community service, Bob Bernhardt has worked tirelessly with youth baseball as a coach and player agent at Serra Park beginning in 1970 when his own son played. He continued for many years as a league umpire until retirement in 2002. As a member of the District 44 Little League Board, Bob served as Treasurer, annually scheduled end of season tournaments, provided publicity liaison with the local press, as well as performing on the select umpiring team during District and Sectional tournament play for several age brackets. While on the District board, Bob also provided invaluable support and guidance to officials at the league level, as they sought to administer their league's activities.

For quite a few seasons I worked with Bob as a board member of Serra Little League, and umpired with him there, as well as in the larger District 44. Bob and I also shared the profession of Facility and Construction Managers at respective Silicon Valley companies. Over the years, Bob has earned my considerable respect on many levels; as a business professional, civic and church contributor, sports official, friend, and generally as a responsible and generous human being with a giving attitude and wonderful personality.

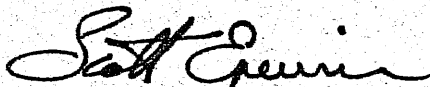
Mayor Chu and Council:
1 December 2004
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Originally, it was my intent to seek recognition for, and to honor Bob for his decades of service to Sunnyvale youth through Little League Baseball by having the main ball field at Serra Park named for him. In discussions with the Director of Parks and Recreation, as well as a member of the City Council, who consulted with the City Manager, we determined the more appropriate path at this time was to seek a Recognition Proclamation from the City in tribute to Mr. Bernhardt.

In support of this petition for a proclamation, I have gathered letters from many of those who know and who have served with Mr. Bernhardt in a variety of organizations. Attached to my letter, are correspondence from Bob's minister; the current Little League District 44 Administrator; a past District 44 Umpire Consultant; the entire current Board of Serra Little League; three past League Presidents and a Vice-President; several fellow umpires; and youth umpires with whom Bob worked, the mother of another youth umpire, as well as a neighbor, co-worker, close friend and members of the same club. Each of these people enthusiastically responded and supported the idea of recognition for this man's years of volunteerism.

I urge you to read each of these many testimonials to Bob Bernhardt in order to better know him and value his dedication to giving of his time and wisdom to benefit others. His 3 decades of community involvement reflect great credit upon Bob and the City of Sunnyvale. Therefore, I respectfully request that you recognize this outstanding citizen for his calling to public service and the resulting betterment of Sunnyvale and its people.

Most Sincerely,



J. Scott Erwin
835 Nisqually Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
(408) 733-9977

Cc: Amy Chan – City Manager
Robert Walker – Director, Parks and Recreation Department